

Message Text

SECRET

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67

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-10 EUR-10 NSC-10 L-02 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SIL-01 LAB-01 NSCE-00

EB-03 DRC-01 /068 W

----- 019366

R 022147Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1672

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

US MISSION GENEVA 132

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

S E C R E T CARACAS 9345

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG ILO ELAB VE

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE

REF: A. CARACAS 9326; B. CARACAS 9298; C. CARACAS 9012

1. DESPITE CALDERA'S APPARENT DISAVOWAL OF DESIRE TO BE NEXT DIRECTOR OF ILO (REF A), I BELIEVE THAT INDEED (REF B) HE WANTS TO HAVE THAT JOB. AS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED (REF C) CALDERA WILL BE A HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, HIGHLY INDEPENDENT, AND, PERHAPS AT TIMES, ANTI-U.S. DIRECTOR GENERAL.

2. HOWEVER, IN KEEPING IN MIND THAT VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF OUR GOVERNMENT WILL BE INVOLVED IN OUR DECISION IN THE SUPPORT OF A CANDIDATE, I STRONGLY URGE THAT WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT ADOPT A POSITION ON THIS ISSUE

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UNTIL AFTER THE VENEZUELAN ELECTIONS WHICH TAKE PLACE

DECEMBER 9. IF, FOR EXAMPLE, CALDERA'S PARTY ASSUMES OFFICE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AND CALDERA FEELS THAT WE OPPOSE HIS CANDIDACY, THIS COULD POISON OUR RELATIONS FOR MUCH OF THE FIVE YEARS. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WE SHOULD SUPPORT HIS CANDIDACY, OUR RELATIONS WITH HIS PARTY COULD ACCORDINGLY BENEFIT.

3. MY OVER-ALL OPINION IS THAT, ON BALANCE, WE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT OPPOSE CALDERA IF HE IS A LEADING CANDIDATE FOR THE DIRECTORSHIP OF ILO. HE CAN, AT LEAST, DO US SOME GOOD IN THAT OFFICE, AND CAN DO US A GREAT DEAL OF HARM IF, DESPITE OUR OPPOSITION, HE IS ELECTED.

4. IN CONSEQUENCE, AND IN ALL CHEERFUL CYNICISM, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT IF CALDERA BECOMES A LEADING CANDIDATE FOR THE ILO DIRECTORSHIP, WE SUPPORT HIM SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.
MCCLINTOCK

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NNN

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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